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DEPARTMENT FOR ISN/MNSA (DAVIS, ALBERQUE) AND NEA/ARP
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TAGS: [ENRG](#) [KNNP](#) [IAEA](#) [PGOV](#) [AE](#)
SUBJECT: UAE POLICY ON NPT REVIEW AND RELATED ISSUES

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR RICHARD G. OLSON FOR REASONS 1.4 B AND D

REF: STATE 83600

11. (C) The information in this message is provided in response to
reftel request:

-- The UAEG takes a supportive approach to most international
nonproliferation issues but its diplomatic impact is limited due to
human resource constraints and a historically low-key approach to
diplomacy.

-- UAEG policies are often shaped in coordination with other members
of the Gulf Cooperation Council (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and
Saudi Arabia) and the Arab League. However, UAE policy on civilian
nuclear power is distinctly independent; the UAE is pursuing nuclear
power, but will not pursue domestic enrichment and reprocessing.

-- As UAE policy on nonproliferation is primarily a political and not
technical concern, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the primary
policy maker. MFA Special Representative for International Nuclear
Cooperation and UAEA IAEA PermRep Hamad Al Kaabi told EconOff on
August 13 that he personally follows key nonproliferation
developments in international fora, passing relevant information to
other UAEG entities like the National Security Council as
appropriate. However, he stressed that other UAEG bodies do not play
an active role in policy decision-making. Al Kaabi said the UAE
seeks to be an active participant in international nuclear policy
discussions and activities, but must prioritize given its limited
human resources.

-- Al Kaabi receives policy guidance from Foreign Minister Sheikh
Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh
Mohammed bin Zayed.

-- The UAE's geographic proximity to Iran, its fears of Iranian
hegemony, and UAE commercial ties with Iran are factors likely
impacting UAEG nonproliferation policies.

-- Al Kaabi and other relevant officials generally travel to key
international meetings; the UAE has few permanent staff in UN
missions. Given centralized decision making, UAE officials stationed
at these missions are likely to follow GCC or Arab League consensus
unless otherwise instructed. They lack the authority to engage in
substantive negotiations or information exchange.

-- Al Kaabi enjoys strong personal ties with the UAE's fledgling
nuclear power industry and is developing a relationship with other
nonproliferation decision-makers.

12. (U) Embassy Abu Dhabi POCS are: Susannah Cooper, EconChief, and

Shayna Steinger, PolChief.
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